| Year | No. of GTs recruited |
|---|---|
| 2004 | 263 |
| 2005 | 21 |
| 2006 | 321 |
| 2007 | 294 |

(c) GTs selected for appointment in ONGC during 2001 to 2007 were paid an initial pay of Rs. 12000/- per month in the pay scale of Rs. 12000-17500/- besides usual allowances and perquisities, as applicable.

In 2005 batch some GTs were paid consolidated stipend of Rs. 17000/- per month. Subsequently, their services were regularized from the date of their joining. Thereafter, recruitment of GTs on consolidated stipend basis has been discontinued.

**Projects of IGL**

†4264. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board has directed Indraprastha Gas Ltd. (IGL) to discontinue development projects for the time being;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether reasons have been cited by the above Board for issuing of the said order;

(c) whether implementation of the above direction would affect work of several projects; and

(d) if so, the names of these projects and amount so far spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has directed Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) not to undertake any new or incremental activity/activities relating to laying, building, operating or expanding City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks without prior authorization of the Board unless there are any specific directions from any Courts to undertake any new or incremental activity or activities in any particular city or local area.

(b) The Board has conveyed to IGL that the information furnished by IGL does not establish that IGL was authorized by the Central Government at any time before the appointed date (October 1, 2007) in terms of Section 17(2) of PNGRB Act, 2006.

(c) and (d) Implementation of the above direction would affect the supply of gas to prospective customers. IGL is taking up the issue with the Board.

**Fire at Bombay High**

4265. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.